THE HAWAIIAN STAR

DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

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THE SAILOR. A recent decision in regard to sailor's wages rendered by a United States court in Delaware was thought or sufficient importance by the Treasury department to be published in full in Treasury Decisions for the information and of the world. The gist of the decision was that the statute problitting the payment of wages to sailors to advance of their being earned, meant just what it said and could not be legally evaded by subterfuge.

This case is only one of many with which the admiralty courts of the United States have had to deal of lake years. In truth the whole law in relation to saliors and their employment is receiving consideration in the courts as it never has before. This is not to be wondered at. The whole theory of these particular laws, as Mr. Justice Harlan said in the Arago case a few years ago dates from ancient times. with some additional impositions on the sailor imposed during the middle ages. The law on most subjects has been remodelled and liberalized from time to time with the advance of enlightenment and liberal ideas. That the law relating to sailors should be the last to feel the effects of this advance is not surprising, because sailors are in the least available position of any class to bring their matters to public attention. The sailors' unions have of late years brought forward one or another point in the law for discussion and legislation as particular conditions seemed to make such points appeal particularly to them. In fact the very law adjudicated on by the Delaware court was are the only people in America who has given rise. Some of the choicest can sign themselves to involuntary ser- portions of the Gospels , considered and written about the contract labor fishermen and fishermen's surroundof these islands. It has been spoken of ings. Some years ago a little volume as Un-American. But the contracts appeared entitled "Fishin' Jimmie" and the penal enforcement of them which wrought out the gospel passages method with the United States laws well worth reading. regarding the contracts of seamen. Yet these laws were declared not unconstitutional by the Supreme court in the The unwisdom of trying to fetter com-Justice Harian filed a vigorous dissent- to prevent speculation is thus succintly the laws enforced an involuntary ser- number of Bradstreets.

whole subject of sailors contracts and has been generally recognized in finanservice will come more and more pro- vial and commercial circles, both in and courts and congress and that they will of regulating the dealings in the comin time be entirely remodeled, emancis mercial and financial markets and pated from the archaic principles un- checking speculative tendencies likely der which they grew up, and conformed to be subversive of German productive to changed modern conditions. This is interests, these statutes have curtailed to be expected not only in the light of the business of the German exchanges the present agitation in regard to them, and forced German capital to transfer but because the laws in regard to its transactions to other markets where other classes of employes have been no such unwise restrictions exist. It is, thus remodeled and changed.

was a sailor before the mast, and whose and actually detrimental to the best inopinion on this subject should have terests of the country has been growing weight independent of what views are until it would seem that the demand entertained respecting his general for their repeal or modification has beviews on economic subjects, maintained come too strong to be resisted. that the degradation of the sailor was due to the laws made ostensibly to protect him from himself and from others. developed itself to seek the higher al-He held that the whole body of law titudes for residences. If one takes the the statute book and the precedents of his employment. He insisted that if even no higher elevation than 100 feet this were done the whole problem of subove sea level is readily perceptible. the sailor and his treatment would be This change is invigorating in a greater solved. He maintained that under such degree than would be supposed merely men would seek the sea as a career and as a means of livelihood as readily as they do any other sphere of labor where the remuneration is similar.

War between Germany and Great Britain is about as remote a contingency as could well be imagined. There is everything in a common bond of blood, commerce religion and intermarriage of the reigning houses to guarantee against it. Besides sovereigns are neither as anxious to make war as they formerly were, nor is it as easy for them to do so as it was.

It is the Bishop Museum, and not the Bishop estate which is having the Wai. and regularly, pio Gulch and its water sources ex-

steel workers, which definitely ended residences. this week, had in it elements which portended much damage and disloca-

pen the general business of the coun cy was exercised thereby, If the queslims or right and justice involved are entirely eliminated, and considering the matter only from the standpoint of a conflict between opposing forces the men, as was pointed out early in FRANK L. MOOGS Manager, the trouble, could not reasonably have expected to win. Although the delightful fiction of responsibility resting with the constituent companies was quite well preserved, the men were confronted for the first time in their experience with a solidly organized opposition possessing a power of localizing the disturbance and of attacking in de tail which has been enjoyed by he other similar concern or organization guidance of United States shipping not choose to really force the fight, but of concerns. That the corporation die commissioners, and consuls in all parts was content to let the strike fail of its own weight, is no disparagement of the strength possessed by the employing interest. That the men's organization had no real financial strength, and that the aid of other labor bodies could not be secured, was no fault of the cor poration against which their efforts were directed, while the failure of the men to make the strike a general one east and west was merely another example of insufficient cause for striking and of bad leadership leading to wurse

> The Chinese question is a veritable Chinese puzzle. The more it is attempted to solve it, the more entangled it seems to become. The interview published on another page throws a new element into the problem. The southern viceroys, it would seem, those who have taken little or no part in the Boxer and foreign troubles of the past year, are actively engaged in military preparations. These preparations seem to be carried on with judgment and good sense. What they portend, it is impossible to say. They are a puzzle in themselves. They seem to furnish additional proof however that the Chinese question is not settled.

If it shall prove that there is red and secured through the efforts of the sail- real fishing in these islands, another ors' unions and was designed to pre- fascinating sport has been added to the vent "advances" to sailors, a thing os- list of those already open to men to tensibly for the benefit of the sailor, whom the open air and nature have atbut working out in experience, accord- tractions. Angling of all sports is the ing to the unions in a system which one that has embedded itself most enslaved the sailor, primarity to the thoroughly in literature. Izaak Walsaliors' boarding house keeper and sec- ton's "Compleat Angler" is not the only ondarily to the ship owners. Sailors gem of literature to which the sport vitude enforcable by imprisonment in from a purely literary standpoint, owe American jails. Much has been said their beauty to their origin among were almost identical in terms and relating to fishing in a beautiful story

Arago case though in that case Mr. merce and exchange, by laws designed ing opinion in which he declared that set out by actual example in the current

witnde incompatible with the thirteenth | The extent to which the Boerse laws of Germany have injured the financial. There seems little doubt that the and economic situation of the empire outside of the country. Under the guis however, to be noted that the feeling Henry George, who in his early life that the Boerse laws are unsuccessful

The tendency seems now to have fully trouble to go up on the foothills and mountains back of the city especially on courts, and that the sailor in his em- a hot day, one wonders that the tenployment should stand on exactly the dency was not earlier developed. The same plane as every other employe in change in the air which can be felt at conditions intelligent and trustworthy from the change in temperature, though the thermometer goes down with the increase in altitude. But there is a freshness in the air that is bracing Truly in Honolulu it is from the hills whence cometh our strength.

But it is perfectly natural that in the past population should have spread itself along the level lands between the beach and the foot of the hills. Two requisities are necessary to modern cities, water and transportation. In the past these two requisites were only attainable on these level lands. It is not practicable for animal propelled street cars to climb any considerable elevations, and there is even a limit to the practicability of private vehicles where much elevation has to be attained daily

Modern engineering and electrical de velopment are overcoming the matter of transit up elevations. And so Hono lulu is reaching the stage when its life A cool and philosophic review of the giving hills and beautiful valleys may steel strike is thus given in brief com- be utilized for residence purposes and pass in the last issue of Bradstreets; they are being so utilized. There is a "While at first sight the strike of distinct movement towards the hills for

The filing of an inventory of an estion to business, it may be said now tate valued at only ten dollars points that it has ended, as most of such again the moral so often drawn that struggles have done, in the defeat of naked we came into the world and nakthe employes, that very little effect ed we leave it.

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